

OPINION 1038

ARGIOPE AUDOUIN, 1826 (ARACHNIDA, ARANEA): PLACED ON THE OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers the generic name *Argiope* Audouin, 1826 (emended by Audouin, 1827 from *Argyope* Audouin, 1826) is hereby validated.

(2) The generic name *Argiope* Audouin, 1826 (gender: feminine), type-species, by subsequent designation by Bonnet, 1955, *Aranea sericea* Olivier, 1798, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2009.

(3) The specific name *lobata* Pallas, 1772, as published in the binomen *Aranea lobata* (the valid name of the type-species of *Argiope* Audouin, 1826) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2548.

(4) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology, with the Name Numbers as specified:

- (a) *Argyope* Audouin, 1826 (ruled under the plenary powers to be an incorrect original spelling for *Argiope* Audouin, 1826) (Name No. 2056);
- (b) "*Argyopes* Latreille" Agassiz, 1846 (an incorrect subsequent spelling of *Argiope* Audouin, 1826) (Name No. 2057);
- (c) "*Argiopes* L. Agassiz" Levi, 1970 (an incorrect subsequent spelling of *Argiope* Audouin, 1826) (Name No. 2058).

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1798)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission by Professor H. W. Levi in March 1967. The application was sent to the printer on 1 July 1970 and was published on 23 December 1970 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* 27 : 200–201. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications. (Constitution Article 12b; *Bull. zool. Nom.* 21 : 184). The application was supported by the following zoologists: J. A. L. Cooke; C. F. Cowan (*Bull.* 28 : 7–8); A. M. Chickering; N. Platnick; R. Leech; C. D. Dondale; H. K. Wallace; J. E. Carico; M. H. Muma; V. Roth; N. J. Gertsch; P. N. Witt; B. J. Kaston; Å. Holm; G. H. Locket; J. Braendegård; J. Denis; R. Legendre; W. B. Peck; P. L. G. Benoit; A. R. Brady; L. Leguelte; A. H. Homann; O. Kraus; A. F. Millidge; J. Prószyński; W. Starega; K. H. Hyatt; J. A. Beatty; P. Tongiorgi; B. S. Gerschman de Pikelin; R. D. Schiapelli; V. V. Hickman; B. Main; J. W. Abalos; P. M. Brignoli; J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson; H. Lemche; R. R. Forster; Prof. Bonnet.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 4 January 1973, the Members of the Commission were invited to vote

under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (72)19 either for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* 27 : 201. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 4 April 1973 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—twenty-three (23), received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Munroe, Lemche, Dupuis, Mayr, Sabrosky, Eisenmann, Vokes, Habe, Rohdendorf, Starobogatov, Binder, Tortonese, Bayer, Brinck, Bernardi, Simpson, Ride, Corliss, Alvarado, Nye, Willink

Negative votes—none (0).

Voting Papers not returned—one (1): Erben

Mr. Heppell and Dr. O. Kraus returned late affirmative votes.

In returning their voting papers the following comments were made by Commissioners:

Dr. C. Dupuis (1.i.73): "[Je vote 'for'] (à l'exclusion de *Argyopes* Latreille, qui n'existe pas en tant que nom latin, cf. Cowan) NB. in Cowan (28:7) ligne 3, à partir du bas, lire 1842 et non 1824."

Dr. W. D. L. Ride (20.iii.73): "Proposal 4(b) may require emendation—see Cowan p. 7 para. 5. The Secretary should take this action if examination of the literature supports Cowan's statement that it is a vernacular in Latreille, 1829."

Dr. R. Alvarado (27.iii.73): "I support specially this case in connection with the rejection of *Argiope* Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1824 [sic, due to misprint *Bull.* 28 : 7] (Brachiopoda) as suggested by C. F. Cowan."

Following these comments, the Secretary, Mr. R. V. Melville, investigated this case further and then published a comment (*Bull.* 30 : 134–135) in which he included a proposal that the plenary powers should be used to suppress *Argiope* J. A. Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1842 (Brachiopoda).

Dr. Herbert Levi then wrote a reply to this comment (30.xii.74): which is reproduced below:

"Melville (1974) questions the validity of the recent action of the Commission, by unanimous vote, to preserve the name *Argiope* Audouin, 1826. Following Cowan (1971), Melville argues that the name *Argiope* (spelled with an 'i') was an emendation by Thorell, 1869, of the name *Argyope* Audouin, 1826 (spelled with a 'y') and therefore a junior homonym of *Argiope* Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1842, a brachiopod. Melville states that since *Argiope* Thorell was a junior homonym when published, the name of the brachiopod genus has to be suppressed. The validity of this interpretation depends entirely on the decision whether to consider *Argiope* Audouin 1827 a *lapsus* or an emendation.

"As stated previously (Levi, 1970), the name *Argyope* Audouin, 1826 was emended in 1827 to *Argiope* by the author himself. Consequently, the name *Argiope* Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1842, was a junior homonym of *Argiope* Audouin, 1827 when established, and thus is to be rejected. Melville followed Cowan's (1971) claim that *Argiope* Audouin, 1827 (spelled with an 'i') was a *lapsus* and not an emendation.

"*Argiope* Audouin, 1827 (with an 'i') is not a misprint, since it occurs in two places: on p. 328 and p. 466. *Argyope* with a 'y' is the vernacular French cited before *Argiope* with an 'i'. Despite the fact that Audouin was inconsistent,

spelling the generic name with a 'y' in the text on p. 329, and in the headings on pp. 331 to 335, the 'i' spelling has to be considered an emendation. It would be unlikely to have the same mis-spelling occur twice in the same volume. The more likely interpretation is that Audouin meant to spell the generic name with an 'i' and did so in the two important places in the text, but in other lines slipped back in the vernacular French. The interpretation that Audouin (1827) spelling with an 'i' is an emendation was accepted by Neave (1939), by Kaston (1948), and by Bonnet (1955) and is thus listed in their publications. Further, the name *Argiope* is based upon the Greek word Ἀργιόπη and the correct transliteration from the Greek requires an 'i' and not a 'y' (ICZN, Appendix B). Thorell (1869) referred to Audouin's 1827 emendation, it was not a new proposal by him. Spider specialists have consistently made the assumption that the original *Argyope* with 'y' of Audouin was an unintentional error following the vernacular French spelling with a 'y' and that this error was corrected by Audouin in the later volume.

"Melville makes two other points peripheral to the preservation of the generic name *Argiope* Audouin. One concerns the spelling of *Argyopes* Latreille in Agassiz 1846. He is correct, as was also Cowan (1971), that Levi (1970) incorrectly spelled it with an 'i'.

"Melville questions the lack of proposals to preserve the family name ARGIOPIDAE Simon, 1890. In my application of April 1967 I suggested the preservation of the family name ARGIOPIDAE. A subsequent informal poll indicated, however, that the majority of specialists preferred the older name ARANEIDAE for the family. Thus (in a letter dated 1 April 1969 to the Secretary), I asked that all reference to family names in the manuscript be deleted.

"The oldest family name is ARANEIDAE. It was published as Araneides Latreille, 1806, and emended to ARANEIDAE by Dahl, 1912. ARANEIDAE has the type genus *Araneus* Clerck, 1758. A junior synonym is EPEIRIDAE Sundevall, 1833, with the type genus *Epeira* Walckenaer, 1805. *Epeira* (type-species designated by Latreille, 1810, *Aranea diadema* Linnaeus) is a junior subjective synonym of *Araneus* (type species by subsequent designation of Simon, 1893, *A. angulatus* Clerck). ARGIOPIDAE Simon, 1890, has the type genus *Argiope* Audouin and is a valid subfamily name (ARGIOPINAE).

"The facts here presented indicate that the previous vote of the Commission was correct and that no further action is needed."

REFERENCES CITED

- AUDOUIN, J. V. [1825], 1826. In: Savigny, J. C. *Explication sommaire des planches d'Arachnides de l'Egypte et de la Syrie*, vol. 1, part 4, p. 121
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 — 1810. *Considérations Générales sur l'ordre naturel des animaux composant la classe des Crustacés, des Arachnides et des Insectes*, Paris, p. 424
 LEVI, H. W. 1970. *Argiope* Audouin, 1826 (Arachnida, Aranaea [*sic*]: proposed preservation under plenary powers. Z.N.(S.) 1798. *Bull. zool. Nom.*, 27 : 200–201
 MELVILLE, R. V. 1974. Proposed suppression under the plenary powers of the generic name *Argiope* J. A. Eudes-Deslongchamps 1842 for the purposes of the Law of Homonymy. Z.N.(S.) 1798. *Bull. zool. Nom.*, 30 : 134–135
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 THORELL, T. 1869. On European spiders. *Nova Acta R. Soc. Scient. upsal.* (ser. 3), 7 : 51
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REPLY TO DR. LEVI. BY R. V. MELVILLE:

"I have re-examined the two editions of Audouin's work and gladly admit that Dr. Levi is right in saying that *Argiope* Audouin, 1827, is an unjustified emendation of *Argyope* Audouin, 1826, and not an erroneous subsequent spelling. The two editions differ, so far as I can tell without rigorous and detailed reading, only in the following respects: the French spelling is modernised (e.g. from 'connoissoit' to 'connaissait'); a number of words spelt with capital initial letters in the first edition have lower-case initial letters in the second; and the generic name *Argyope* in the first edition is spelt *Argiope* in the second. All these changes must be regarded as equally intentional. I may plead that Dr. Levi's frequent mention of Thorell, 1869, as the author of the spelling *Argiope* distracted my attention from Audouin's second edition.

"Dr. Holthuis has written to me to point out that the Commission's vote already taken on this application has the effect of giving *Argiope* Audouin priority as from 1826. In consequence, *Argiope* J. A. Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1842, is a stillborn junior homonym. My intervention published in *Bull.* 30 : 134 was therefore ill-considered and unnecessary and no further action by the Commission is called for."

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on the Official Lists by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

- Argiope* Audouin, 1826, In Savigny, *Explication sommaire des planches d'Arachnides de l'Egypte et de la Syrie*, Vol. 1, part 4, p. 121
 "Argiopes L. Agassiz", Levi, 1970, *Bull. zool. Nom.* 27 : 201
 "Argyopes Latreille" Agassiz, 1846, *Nomenclator Zoologicus*, Soloduri: 2
Argyope Audouin, 1826, In Savigny, *Explication sommaire des planches d'Arachnides de l'Egypte et de la Syrie*, Vol. 1, part 4, p. 121
lobata, *Aranea*, Pallas, 1772, *Spicilegia Zoologiae*. Fasc. 9, p. 46

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (72)19 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1038.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London
6 February 1975